

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD  
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

**POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN STB DOCKET NO. AB-33 (Sub-No. 249X)

**September 6, 2007**

**ABANDONMENT TYPE**

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

(X) Notice of Exemption ( ) Petition for Exemption ( ) Regulated Abandonment

( ) **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

(X) **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on August 17, 2007 for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended one environmental condition and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

**Comments**

SEA received three comments after issuance of the EA. Michael Cassida, a landowner, commented that he is in favor of the proposed abandonment but is opposed to converting the right-of-way into any public use. Michael Cassida and Thomas Dotta, also a landowner, both submitted additional comments requesting that UP expand the proposed abandonment to the Plumas County Road A24 crossing and return the right-of-way to the individual landowner of record.

**Conclusions**

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, SEA recommends that the following conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

The Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) shall retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all sites, buildings, and structures within the project right-of-way that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (generally, 50 years old or older) until the Section 106 process of the National Historic

Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f, has been completed. UP shall report back to the Section of Environmental Analysis regarding any consultations with the SHPO and any other Section 106 consulting parties. UP may not file its consummation notice or initiate any salvage activities related to abandonment (including removal of tracks and ties) until the Section 106 process has been completed and the Board has removed this condition.

If the above condition is imposed, SEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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